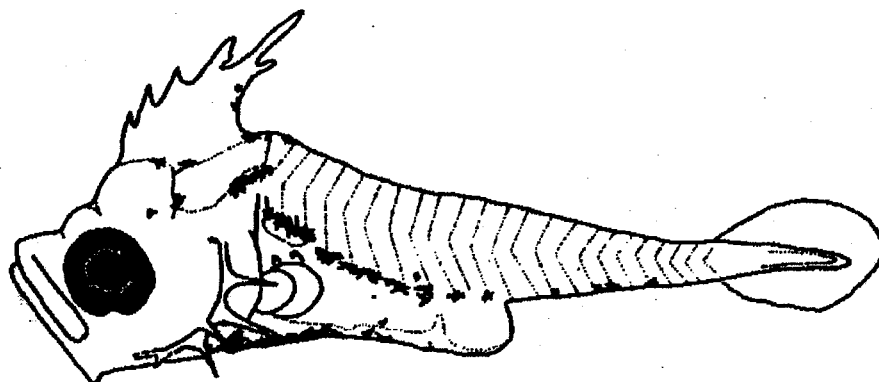




PRELIMINARY GUIDE TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE EARLY LIFE HISTORY STAGES OF LOBOTID
FISHES OF THE WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC

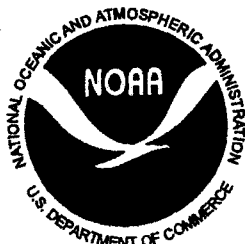
BY

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July 2001



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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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National Marine Fisheries Service
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July 2001

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Springfield, VA 22161
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<<http://www.ntis.gov/numbers.htm>>

LOBOTIDAE

MERISTICS

Vertebrae:	
Precaudal	11
Caudal	13
Total	24
Number of Fin Spines and Rays:	
First Dorsal	XII
Second Dorsal	15-16
Total	27-28
Anal	III, 11-12
Total Anal Elements	27-28
Pectoral	16
Pelvic	1,5
Caudal	
Dorsal Secondary	3-5
Principal	9+8
Ventral Secondary	3-5
Total	23-27

LIFE HISTORY

Range: throughout area

Habitat: epipelagic, shelf & oceanic, may enter bays & estuaries

ELH Pattern: oviparous, pelagic eggs & larvae

Spawning:

 Season: May-September

 Area: outer shelf & oceanic waters

 Migration: north-south

 Age at first maturity: 1

LITERATURE

Uchida et al 1958, Merriner & Foster 1974, Johnson 1984, Gilhen & McAllister 1985, Ditty & Shaw 1994

Lobotes surinamensis (Bloch)

EARLY LIFE HISTORY DESCRIPTION

EGGS: Unknown

LARVAE:

Length at Flexion: 4-5 mm SL

Length at transformation: 9.0-9.5 mm SL

Sequence of fin development: P₂, D₁, D₂, A, P₁, C

Pigmentation: heavy, mottled at larger sizes

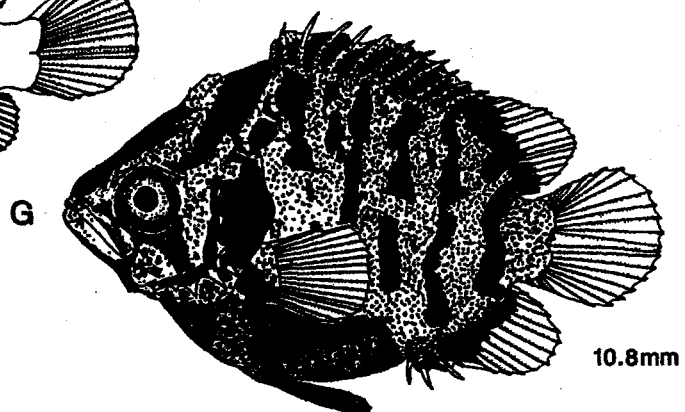
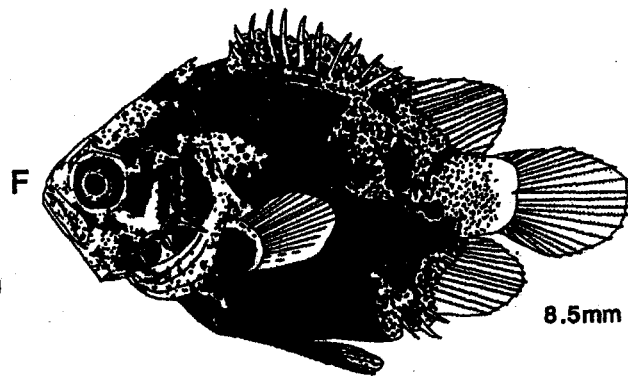
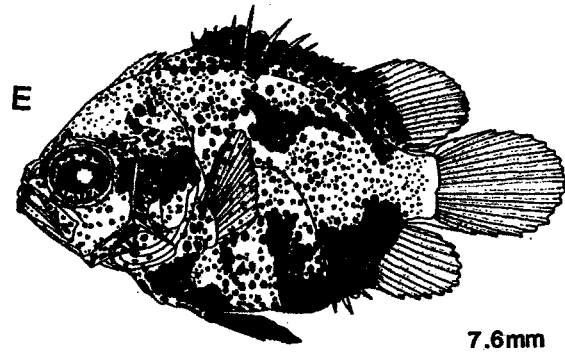
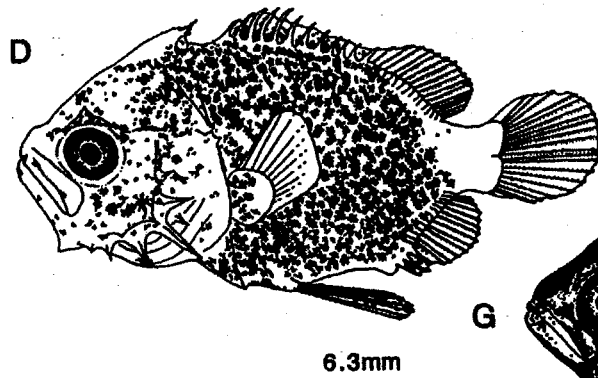
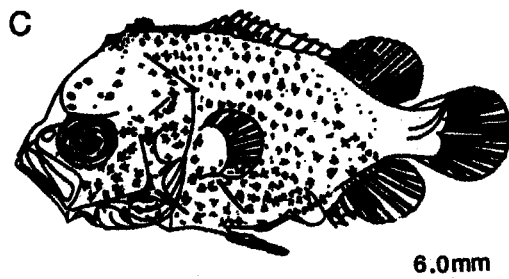
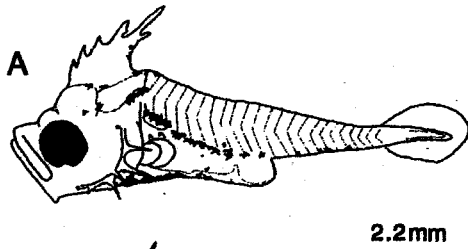
Diagnostic Characters: median, vaulted, serrate supraoccipital crest with spines along leading edge; precocious pelvic fins. Separate from *Chaetodipterus faber* by fin ray counts; from other similar larvae by placement of pelvic fin origin posterior to pectorals & lack of serrate dorsal, anal, & pelvic spines.

ILLUSTRATIONS

From Ditty & Shaw 1994. A: 2.2 mm NL, B: 4.0 mm NL, C: 6.0 mm SL, D: 6.3 mm SL, E: 7.6 mm, F: 8.5 mm SL, G: 10.8 mm SL

Lobotes surinamensis

LOBOTIDAE



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